

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4277

E.O. 11652: GDS-12/31/79

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NPG-10 SEPTEMBER STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: (A) NPG(STAFF GROUP)WP(73)12

(B) NPG(STAFF GROUP),(73)87

BEGIN SUMMARY: STAFF GROUP (SG) REVIEWED AND APPROVED DRAFT ADVANCE PRESS RELEASE FOR SUBMISSION TO CAPITALS. SG DISCUSSED FUTURE WORK PROGRAM, DRAWING ON DESCRIPTION IN REF. (B). PRINCIPAL POINTS OF DISCUSSION INCLUDED (1) AGREE-MENT TO DROP REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE AIR BATTLE STUDY, (2) DESIRABILITY OF LEAVING OPEN COMPLETION DATE OF PHASE II FOLLOW-ON WORK, AND (3) QUESTION OF POSSIBLE INITIATION OF NEW ILLUSTRATIVE STUDY AT THE HAGUE NPG FOR PRESENTATION AT FALL 1974 MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. STAFF GROUP (SG) REVIEWED AND APPROVED DRAFT ADVANCE PRESS RELEASE FOR NOVEMBER NPG MEETING (REF. (A)-- POUCHED). SYG LUNS WILL CIRCULATE PRESS RELEASE THIS WEEK REQUESTING CONCURRENCE BY CAPITALS. SG CHAIRMAN (SEIM) REQUESTED THAT DELEGATIONS ADVISE HIM IF CAPITALS PLAN CONFIDENTIAL

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SIMULTANEOUS RELEASE WITH ANNOUNCEMENT IN BRUSSELS.

2. SG REVIEWED REF. (B) (POUCHED) DESCRIBING ON-GOING WORK IN NPG, WHICH WILL BE USED AS BASIS FOR PREPARATION OF PO

ON FUTURE WORK PROGRAM. SG AGREED THAT PO SHOULD BE ORGANIZED TO ADDRESS ON-GOING WORK AND POSSIBLE FUTURE WORK, WHERE APPLICABLE, UNDER EACH SUBJECT HEADING. PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS DISCUSSED INCLUDE FOLLOWING:

A). FOLLOW-ON USE WORK PROGRAM (REF. (B), PARAS. 1, 11)

SG AGREED TO DROP REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE FUTURE INITIATION OF AIR BATTLE STUDY. CANADA PROPOSED, AND SG AGREED, TO INCLUDE REFERENCE TO INITIATION OF PHASE III FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF PHASE II, AS WELL AS GENERAL REFERENCE TO ANY SPIN-OFF WORK WHICH MAY BE AGREED IN CONTEXT OF FOLLOW-ON USE WORK PROGRAM. CANADA SOUGHT TO INCLUDE STATEMENT THAT PHASE II REPORT MIGHT BE EXPECTED PRIOR TO SPRING 1974 NPG MEETING. UK AND SG CHAIRMAN POINTED OUT THAT NO FIXED SCHEDULE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR PHASE II WORK AND THEREFORE TIMING SHOULD BE LEFT OPEN. SG CHAIRMAN NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE PHASE II WORKING GROUP MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE AN INDICATION OF WHEN IT EXPECTS TO SUBMIT A PHASE II REPORT AS A RESULT OF MEETING IN WASHINGTON WEEK OF 10 SEPTEMBER.

B). ILLUSTRATIVE STUDIES (REF. (B), PARA. 2)

SG CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT IF MINISTERS WISH TO ADDRESS AN ILLUSTRATIVE STUDY AT THE FALL 1974 MEETING, IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR THEM TO INITIATE STUDY AT THE HAGUE MEETING. SHAPE REP (KRONE) NOTED DESIRABILITY OF MAXIMUM LEAD-TIME, BUT PREFERENCE TO AVOID OVERLAP OF CONSECUTIVE STUDIES. WE EXPECT THIS QUESTION TO BE DISCUSSED AT 4 OCTOBER PERM REP MEETING.

C). COMMUNICATING NATO'S INTENTIONS (REF. (B), PARA. 5)

FOLLOWING SG DISCUSSION, SG CHAIRMAN AGREED TO NOTE IN PO THAT IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT SG WILL CONDUCT STUDY OF PERM REPS IN ABSENCE OF OFFIERS FROM COUNTRIES TO CONFIDENTIAL

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DO IT.

D). CONSULTATION PROCEDURES AND FACILITIES REF. (B), PARA. 7).

REFERENCE TO "SPECIAL OPERATING SIGNAL" WILL BE DROPPED IN LIGHT OF AGREEMENT TO DEFER CONSIDERATION OF THIS PROCEDURE FOR POLITICAL CONSULTATION UNTIL NMA'S HAVE HAD FURTHER EXPERIENCE WITH ITS USE.

3. SG CHAIRMAN EXPLAINED THAT FINAL PO ON FUTURE WORK PROGRAM WILL NOT BE CLEARED WITH CAPITALS, BUT THAT HE WOULD WELCOME ANY NATIONAL VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT. SUBJECT WILL BE

ON AGENDA FOR 4 OCTOBER PERM REPS MEETING. THEREFORE, ANY
COMMENTS WASHINGTON MAY WISH TO MAKE SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO
MISSION PRIOR TO 4 OCTOBER.
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